

Scottish Society for Crop Research

D.L.Hood

Trustees: - Mr A G M Forbes
Mr I E Ivory
Mr A Pattullo (Resigned)

Chairman: - Mr J S Whitehead

Vice Chairman: -

Members of Committee of Management: -
Mr T D Gray
Mr A Logan
Mr L M Porter
Mr G Rennie
Dr S Wale

Secretary and Treasurer: - Mr D L Hood

Registered Office: - c/o Scottish Crop
Research Institute, Invergowrie, Dundee DD2 5DA

Membership Numbers: - 261

The Scottish Society for Crop Research is a registered Friendly Society formed in 1981 by the amalgamation of the Scottish Society for Research in Plant Breeding and the Scottish Horticultural Research Association.

The Society provides a link between the Scottish Crop Research Institute and farmers, processors and other interested bodies: -

by organising field walks and meetings for the exchange of information

by financing science based publications for the benefit of the membership

through the formation of crop-based sub-committees which maintain contact with members on specialised topics.

The Society continued to support projects initiated in previous years such as "Malting Quality Analysis in Winter Barley Mixtures" with results of interest to the brewing industry.

Grower Trials for the management of Potato Cyst Nematode and Aspects of Physiological age of Potato and suitability for specific market outlets were two additional projects undertaken during the year.

A contribution towards Mylnefield Research Services Ltd Raspberry Breeding Programme was repeated.

The XVIth Eucarpia Congress "*Plant Breeding: Sustaining the Future*" was held in Edinburgh and the Society was pleased to offer support.

A grant from the Thyne Bequest was awarded to Dr D J Robinson to attend a meeting of the European Association for Potato Research in the Czech Republic.

These projects, together with the award of travel grants to enable Institute members of staff to attend conferences and seminars overseas to discuss their research, promote both the Institute and Society. Reports from those awarded travel grants are available on request from the Secretary.

Dr Roger Turner, Chief Executive of the British Society of Plant Breeders took as his topic, "The Future of Plant Breeding", at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.



The Chairman of the Society, Mr. J.S. Whitehead presents the Peter Massalski Prize for 2002 to Dr. J. Jones, who was congratulated also by Professor David Hughes, University of London.

No Society Soft Fruit Walk was held during the year because of staff involvement in the 8th International *Rubus* and *Ribes* Symposium in July.

"Potatoes in Practice", the Society Potato event, in conjunction with the British Potato Council, the Scottish Agricultural College, and the Institute, was

held in August and proved of interest to many members from all sections of the industry.

The Crop Sub-Committees including Cereals met throughout the year and informed the Management Committee of their approved projects for the coming season.

The Management Committee met twice during the year, in May and November, and was particularly concerned about the future of the raspberry breeding programme at the Institute.

Mr A Pattullo MC resigned as a Trustee at the Annual General Meeting. A Member of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Society for Research in Plant Breeding since 1973, he was elected a Trustee of the Scottish Society for Crop Research on its inauguration in 1982. His wise counsel and wide experience was noted and the Chairman thanked him warmly for his contribution to the Society.

Society membership continues to decline due to retirement and contraction within the industry. Farming controversies and countryside matters exercise the minds of politicians who consider a ban on hunting with dogs in Scotland a priority in the legislative calendar.

The Management Committee welcomes suggestions for research topics and comment from members and others and urges them to contribute to the Society by joining one of the Crop Sub-Committees or indeed the Management Committee.

The Newsletter of the Society languishes and will not make an appearance in the immediate future. Nevertheless, contributed articles together with photographs of interest should be forwarded for the attention of the Secretary and Treasurer who will attempt to collate them into some form of publication.